# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2010
RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Sivakumar Alias J.K. Ritheesh Shri K.

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) the mechanism in place for rescue and relief operations in the Railways;

(b) the details of response time in the aftermath of an accident;

(c) whether the Railways' disaster management plan presently lacks cohesiveness and is not fully prepared to handle disasters; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Railways thereto alongwith the corrective measures taken in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS(KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) of STARRED QUESTION NO. 173 BY SHRI K. SHIVAKUMAR ALIAS J.K. RITHEESH AND SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 05.08.2010 REGARDING RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS

(a) The Railways have a network of Accident Relief Trains and Accident Relief Medical Vans placed at identified locations, which cover the entire rail network of Indian Railways. The Accident Relief Medical Vans and Accident Relief Train are equipped with rescue and relief equipments required to be used at the accident site. On receiving information of an accident, the Accident Relief Medical Vans and Accident Relief Train are dispatched to the accident site alongwith personnel trained in rescue and relief operations.

(b) Immediately on receipt of information about an accident, involving or likely to involve injuries or deaths, Accident Relief Medical Vans (ARMVs) are rushed to the site of the accident. The target time for dispatch of ARMVs is a maximum of 30 minutes from their ordering. These ARMVs carry medical equipments, doctors, paramedics and other officials to the site of the accident for prompt medical relief. These also carry emergency tools for extricating the injured persons and the bodies from the debris, if required. Accident Relief Trains (ARTs) carrying equipments and staff to deal with relief, rescue and restoration are dispatched from the locations where these are stationed to the accident site. The target time for dispatch of ARTs is a maximum of 60 minutes from their ordering. ARMVs and ARTs are given precedence over all other trains while proceeding to the site of the accident. Many a times Railways doctors, paramedics and other officials reach the site of the accident by road depending upon accessibility of the site by road.

(c) No, Madam. Disaster Management Plan of Indian Railways is comprehensive and fully prepared to handle disasters. The Disaster Management Plans at Divisional level, Zonal level and at Railway Board level are dovetailed and integrated with each other.

(d) Does not arise